

**REMARKS**

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action dated August 8, 2005 and is a follow up on the Examiner Interview granted on October 12, 2005, for which the Applicant thanks the Examiner for his courtesies. The examiner has stated that new corrected drawings are required in this application. New drawings are being supplied with this response. Claims 34-37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. These dependent claims mistakenly referred to claim 28 instead of claim 29. These have been amended.

The examiner withdrew claims 29-33 and 38-43 from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention. The applicant respectfully traverses this restriction because all of the claims presented relate to an internet-based system and method for providing automated shipping services. Reviewing the status and comparing costs is simply an additional part of the system claimed in claims 22 et seq. The inventions require a similar web page structure as that claimed in claim 22 to operate.

The examiner rejected claims 22-28 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the FedEx system and in view of Viking Freight and De La Motte et al. The applicant respectfully traverses this rejection on the grounds that De La Motte et al. is not prior art. De La Motte et al. was filed July 30, 1999. The priority date of the applicant's parent application 09/303,788 is April 30, 1999. The applicant's parent application discusses obtaining quotes on page 9, line 3. In addition, applicant has

cancelled claim 25 and included its language in claim 22, as presently amended.

Furthermore, applicant has added language to claim 25 to comport with the Interview

Summary resulting from the October 12, 2005 Interview with the Examiner.

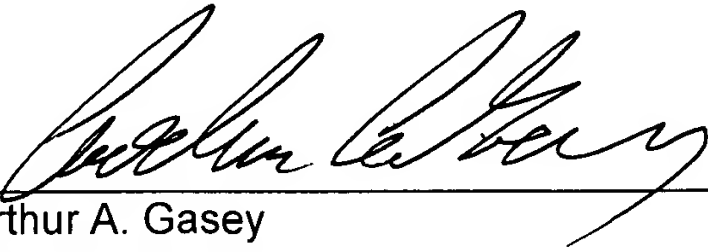
Specifically, the Examiner's interview summary states:

With regard to claim 22, Applicant argued that the plural quote system freight system of the claimed distinguished over the goods based system of De La Motte. The Examiner said the he believed that such an application would have been an obvious modification. With regard to claim 25, agreement was reached with regard to language to add to the claim that would overcome the applied prior art. In particular, by actively utilizing the accepted/declined accessorial information within the freight ordering system to provide an accurate quote, the claim is distinguished over general web-based application of forcing a user to accept/decline information

(10/12/05 Interview Summary at p.3). Accordingly, applicant has taken dependent claim 25 and added it to claim 22 (upon which it depended) and added the language from the interview summary set forth above.

Based on the above, the applicant feels that the examiner will find the claims to be patentable, and therefore respectfully requests that the examiner place the case in condition for allowance at his earliest convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Arthur A. Gasey', is written over a horizontal line.

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